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(12) United States Patent Reed et al.

(10) Patent No.:

US 6,546,399 B1

(45) Date of Patent:

*Apr. 8, 2003

(54) MULTIMEDIA SEARCH SYSTEM

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(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35

U.S.C. 154(b) by 0 days.

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This patent is subject to a terminal disclaimer.

(21) Appl. No.: 08/202,985

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(Under 37 CFR 1.47)

Related U.S. Application Data

(63)	Continuation of application No. 08/113,955, filed on Aug.
` '	13, 1993, now abandoned, which is a continuation of appli-
-	cation No. 07/426,917, filed on Oct. 26, 1989, now Pat. No.
	5,241,671.

(21)	Int. Ci.	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	 1001. T/120
(52)	U.S. Cl.		 707/104.1
(58)	Field of	Search	 707/104.1

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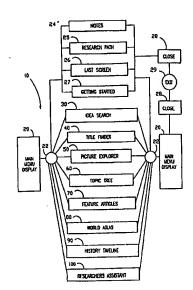
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(57) ABSTRACT

A database search system that retrieves multimedia information in a flexible, user friendly system. The search system uses a multimedia database consisting of text, picture, audio and animated data. That database is searched through multiple graphical and textual entry paths. Those entry paths include an idea search, a title finder search, a topic tree search, a picture explorer search, a history timeline search, a world atlas search, a researcher's assistant search, and a feature articles search.

75 Claims, 20 Drawing Sheets



CASE 17/30